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# THE COMPLEMENT FactsBook

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# The Complement System

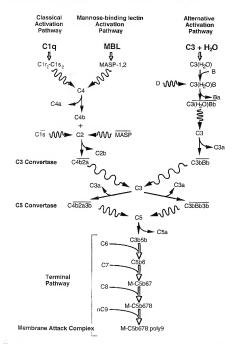


Figure 8. Overview of the activation of the complement system. Open arrows represent activation via changes in conformation while vime represents an enzymatic cleavage step. Overlined components (CIs) are activated enzymes, derived from zymogen precursors.

# Classical pathway

The C1 complex, which in multimolecular complex con each of C1 and C1s. The bins of immunoglobulins, specifica and enzymatic changes within variety of pathogens in the C1r. This is in turn cleaves a molecules of C1s are then 1a protease. At this point, C1INT and C1s active sites causing t

Activated CIs cleaves C4, r and C4b. Exposed within the bond (C4b\*). Most of this C4l presence of an activating surfa C4b\* reacts with hydroxyl or deposition in clusters close to acceptor for binding of C2, wh is released while the C2a, cor. C4b and forms the classical p cleaves C3 at a single point i the highly labile C3b\*. As wit thioester which is now avai Binding of C3 in the vicinity classical pathway C5 converta extremely labile and consequ convertase will escape hydro occurs during activation, with activating cell surface for each

activating cell surface for each It is this amplification whic were not carefully regulated ! role of CIINH has already be function either to inhibit as dissociation and catabolism. F inactivates both C3b and C4b [both membrane-bound] or for phase cofactor for C3 degrada function in the classical par membrane-bound protein, acc

# Mannose-binding lectin

The lectin pathway is highly and C4 with it. However, interest the difference lying in the complex is replaced by a home -2. MBL is activated by bindi